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Patent Attorneys

## Stiennon &amp; Stiennon

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## DRAFT CLAIMS

Fax to: Examiner L. Ferguson  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Group Art Unit 1774

At Fax Number: (571) 273-3186  
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From: David R. J. Stiennon  
Date: July 25, 2007  
Time: \_\_\_\_\_  
Our Reference: MFTSO-19  
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There follows draft claims to be considered at our interview on  
Thursday, July 26, at 3:00 p.m.

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Applicant: Wayne Boga et al.  
Application No.: 10/774,084  
Response to Office action dated May 4, 2007  
Response filed July 26, 2007

**DRAFT****Claim Listing**

1-14. (canceled)

15. (currently amended) A suction roll seal strip, comprised of a material selected to allow a seal strip with a cross-section of 1.9 cm by 4.8 cm to be bent into a reel with a radius of less than 150 cm, said material defining the suction roll seal strip.

16. (currently amended) A suction roll seal strip, ~~comprised of~~ comprising a mixture of more than 50% nitrile rubber and graphite, and said mixture containing wax, the mixture being formed into the suction roll strip.

17. (previously presented) The seal strip of claim 16, wherein an amount of wax in the mixture is set so that the flexibility of the seal strip when it has a cross-section of 1.9 cm by 4.8 cm permits the seal strip to be bent onto a reel, having a radius of less than 130 cm.

18. (previously presented) The suction roll seal strip of claim 16 wherein the mixture includes 1-15% wax by volume.

19. (previously presented) The suction roll seal strip of claim 18 wherein the mixture includes 2-4% wax by volume.

20. (previously presented) The suction roll seal strip of claim 16 wherein the mixture includes an amount of nitrile rubber of 30-60% by volume, and an amount of graphite 30-60% by volume.

21. (previously presented) The suction roll seal strip of claim 16 wherein the mixture includes 1-15% sulphur or peroxide by mass.

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22. (previously presented) The suction roll seal strip of claim 16 wherein the graphite in the mixture is natural graphite.
23. (previously presented) The suction roll seal strip of claim 16 wherein the graphite in the mixture is synthetic graphite.
24. (previously presented) The suction roll seal strip of claim 16 wherein the wax in the mixture has a melting point more than 100 ° C.
25. (previously presented) The suction roll seal strip of claim 16 wherein the wax in the mixture has a melting point within the range 110–150 ° C.
26. (previously presented) The suction roll seal strip of claim 16 wherein the amount of wax is selected such that a seal strip, with a cross-section of 1.9 by 4.8 cm can be rolled onto a reel with a radius of less than 1.5 m.
27. (previously presented) The suction roll seal strip of claim 16 wherein the wax in the mixture is an ethylene bis-stearamide wax.
28. (previously presented) The suction roll seal strip of claim 27 wherein the wax in the mixture is a N, N'-ethylene bis-stearamide wax.
29. (currently amended) The suction roll seal strip of claim ~~[[27]]~~ 16 wherein the wax in the mixture is a wax selected from the group consisting of: hydroxy stearamide wax, hydroxy bis-stearamide wax, carnauba wax, esparto wax, polyolefin wax, and amide wax

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30. (currently amended) A suction roll seal strip for placement in a holder of a stationarily supported suction box in a paper machine, the suction box being connected to a vacuum source, and located inside a perforated cylindrical roll which is mounted for rotation around the suction box, wherein the cylindrical roll has an inner surface and wherein the suction box has a gap opening against the cylindrical roll, the suction roll seal strip for positioning within the holder positioning the sealing strip to form a seal between the suction box and the inner surface of the cylindrical roll so that the seal strip wipes against the inner surface of the cylindrical roll as it rotates, the suction roll seal[[ing]] strip comprising: a section of material, ~~wherein the material of the sealing strip is selected to allow a seal strip~~ with a cross-section of 1.9 cm by 4.8 cm to be bent into a reel with a radius of less than 150 cm.

31. (previously presented) The suction roll seal strip of claim 30 wherein the seal strip is comprised of a mixture of more than 50% nitrile rubber and graphite, and contains wax.

32. (previously presented) The suction roll seal strip of claim 31 wherein the mixture includes 1–15% wax by volume.

33. (previously presented) The suction roll seal strip of claim 32 wherein the wax in the mixture has a melting point within the range of 110–150 ° C.

34. (currently amended) The suction roll seal strip of claim 33 wherein the wax in the mixture is a wax selected from the group consisting of: ethylenc bis-stearamide wax, hydroxy stearamide wax, hydroxy bis-stearamide wax, carnauba wax, esparto wax, polyolefin wax, and amide wax.